

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 3 and 13 are cancelled, claims 1, 7, 9 and 14 are amended and claim 15 is added as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of limiting the speed of a vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

determining the environmental conditions of said vehicle;

determining a maximum permissible speed in dependence upon

5 the determined environmental conditions; ~~and,~~

limiting the speed of said vehicle to said maximum permissible speed speed;

disabling said limiting of said speed when an operator-controlled element is actuated beyond a pregiven
10 threshold angle; and,

carrying out an increase of the speed of said vehicle above the maximum permissible speed in the form of a ramp function or iteratively in a pregiven step width.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of determining said environmental conditions in dependence upon at least one of the following: rain intensity, humidity, ambient temperature, ambient pressure and ambient brightness.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said operator-controlled element is an accelerator pedal.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said limiting is disabled when the actuation of said operator-controlled element beyond said pregiven threshold has been present for at least a first pregiven time.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of disabling said limiting when at least one of said environmental conditions passes a pregiven threshold.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 6~~ claim 2, wherein said limiting is disabled when at least one of the following occurs: the rain intensity drops below a first pregiven value; the ambient brightness exceeds a second pregiven value; the ambient temperature exceeds a third pregiven value and the ambient pressure exceeds a fourth pregiven value.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of disabling the limiting when a switch-off condition is present.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said switch-off condition is present when at least one of the following occurs: a wheel slip of said vehicle drops

below a fifth pregiven value and [[the]] an instantaneous speed
5 of said vehicle drops below a sixth pregiven value.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said limiting
only becomes active when the environmental conditions, which lead
to the determination of the maximum permissible speed, are
present uninterrupted for a second pregiven time and the
5 instantaneous speed of said vehicle exceeds the maximum
permissible speed.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said limiting of
the speed is realized by limiting a driver command torque or is
realized by limiting a degree of actuation of an
operator-controlled element.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said
operator-controlled element is an accelerator pedal.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) Arrangement for limiting the speed of a
vehicle, the arrangement including:

means for determining the environmental conditions of said
vehicle;

5 means for determining a maximum permissible speed in
dependence upon the determined environmental conditions; and,

means for limiting the speed of said vehicle to said maximum
permissible ~~speed~~ speed;

10 means for disabling said limiting of said speed when an
operator-controlled element is actuated beyond a pregiven
threshold angle; and.

means for carrying out an increase of the speed of said
vehicle above the maximum permissible speed in the form of a ramp
function or iteratively in a pregiven step width.

15. (New) The arrangement of claim 14, wherein said
operator-controlled element is an accelerator pedal.